

Memorandum

To: Honorable Jerome E. Horton, Chairman
Honorable Michelle Steel, Vice-Chair
Honorable Betty T. Yee
Senator George Runner
Honorable John Chiang

Date : July 20, 2011

From:  David J. Gau, Deputy Director
Property and Special Taxes Department, MIC: 63

Subject: **Additional Material for Board Meeting Agenda Item P1.3, Centralized Revenue Opportunity System (CROS) Project Update - July 27, 2011**

I would like to make you aware of a few significant developments related to the CROS project.

Feasibility Study Report

The CROS project received verbal approval to move forward from the California Technology Agency (CTA) and Department of Finance (DOF) at the end of June (6/21/11). CROS project staff is awaiting written approval before the project can officially kick-off the procurement phase with the Department of General Services (DGS). The written approval will contain any conditions the project must adhere to in order to stay in compliance with the project approval. CROS project staff anticipates receiving written approval the first week in August.

Communication & Outreach

Presentations were held on July 15th at the Riverside District Office for invitees of the Motor Carrier Office (MCO). Approximately 92 taxpayers and 59 agents attended. We were able to explain to the external stakeholders what the CROS project is and gather valuable feedback. The feedback received was comprised of a variety of subjects regarding current problems stakeholders are experiencing; how BOE could assist them by simplifying their obligations; what types of online services/functions would be helpful to them as users; what types of information they would like to access; their preferred method of communication; and, their vision for the future. Attendees were also given contact information should they wish to reach CROS project staff in the future.

There are two Northern California MCO presentations scheduled for July 21st in West Sacramento. As of July 13, 2011, 44 taxpayers and 15 agents have confirmed attendance.

CROS project staff has made additional contacts with tax partner agencies and industry groups associated with the programs administered by the Property and Special Taxes Department. CROS intends to email structured questions encompassing the same material covered in the MCO presentations to solicit feedback from these partner agencies. Utilizing email will expedite the solicitation of feedback from agencies we are already working with.

DJG:tw

Approved: 

Kristine Cazadd, Interim Executive Director

Item P
Sub-item P1.3
7-27-11

cc: Ms. Regina Evans
Mr. Louis Barnett
Mr. Alan LoFaso
Mr. Sean Wallentine
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Ms. Kristine Cazadd
Mr. Jeffrey L. McGuire
Ms. Anna Brannen
Ms. Liz Houser
Ms. Diane Olson